APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/900,036	07/09/2001	Toyohiko Ushiku	862.C2297	3930

			EXAMINER
5514	7590	09/21/2004	HARRELL, ROBERT B

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2142	

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/900,036	USHIKU, TOYOHIKO
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Robert B. Harrell	2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _1_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>09 July 2001</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-30</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-30</u> are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☒ Other: *see attached*.

1. Claims 1-30 are present for consideration.

2. Since _a_ patent may only be granted on _an_ invention (each in the singular per 35 U.S.C. 101), restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 (see 37 CFR 1.141):

GROUP I:
Claims 1-10, 15-24, and 29, drawn to:

> an information processing system comprising acquisition means for acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, setting means for setting user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and service use means for providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; *OR,* stated another way, an information processing apparatus comprising acquisition means for acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, setting means for setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means, and transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; *OR,* stated another way, a method of controlling an information processing system, comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, the setting step of setting user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and the service use step of providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; *OR,* stated another way, an information processing method comprising the acquisition step of acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; *OR,* stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing

comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device.

Classified in Class 717, subclass 108.

GROUP II:

Claims 11, 12, 25, 26, and 30, drawn to:

an information processing apparatus comprising service providing means for providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, reception means for receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and use means for using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received by said reception means and the information about the user that is contained in the service object, **OR**, stated another way, an information processing method comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object; **OR**, stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object.

Classified in Class 719, subclass 315.

GROUP III:

Claims 13, 14, 27, and 28, drawn to:

an information processing apparatus comprising reception means for receiving a service request, and transmission means for transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received by said reception means, wherein the proxy object has holding means for holding set information; **OR**, stated another way, an information processing method comprising the reception step of receiving a service request, and the transmission step of transmitting a proxy object for

performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received in the reception step, wherein the proxy object has the holding step of holding set information.
Classified in Class 709, subclass 203.

3. Distinction is shown in the following paragraphs in the generalized format of:

Inventions X and Y are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately useable. In this instant case, invention of Group X has separate utility such as in X not used in Y as claimed in Group Y (for each X:=1-3 then Y:=1-3 skipping where Y = X).

4. Inventions I and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately useable. In this instant case, invention of Group I has separate utility such as in an information processing system comprising acquisition means for acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, setting means for setting user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and service use means for providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing apparatus comprising acquisition means for acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, setting means for setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means, and transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; **_OR,_** stated another way, a method of controlling an information processing system, comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, the setting step of setting user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and the service use step of providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing method comprising the acquisition step of acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of

transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; **_OR,_** stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device not used in an information processing apparatus comprising service providing means for providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, reception means for receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and use means for using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received by said reception means and the information about the user that is contained in the service object, **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing method comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object; **_OR,_** stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object as claimed in Group II.

5. Inventions I and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately useable. In this instant case, invention of Group I has separate utility such as in an information processing system comprising acquisition means for acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, setting means for setting user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and service use means for providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing apparatus comprising

acquisition means for acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, setting means for setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means, and transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; **_OR_**, stated another way, a method of controlling an information processing system, comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, the setting step of setting user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and the service use step of providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; **_OR_**, stated another way, an information processing method comprising the acquisition step of acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; **_OR_**, stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device not used in an information processing apparatus comprising reception means for receiving a service request, and transmission means for transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received by said reception means, wherein the proxy object has holding means for holding set information; **_OR_**, stated another way, an information processing method comprising the reception step of receiving a service request, and the transmission step of transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received in the reception step, wherein the proxy object has the holding step of holding set information as claimed in Group III.

6. Inventions II and I are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately useable. In this instant case, invention of Group II has separate utility such as in an information processing apparatus comprising service providing means for providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, reception means for receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing

information about a user, and use means for using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received by said reception means and the information about the user that is contained in the service object, **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing method comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object; **_OR,_** stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object not used in an information processing system comprising acquisition means for acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, setting means for setting user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and service use means for providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing apparatus comprising acquisition means for acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, setting means for setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means, and transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; **_OR,_** stated another way, a method of controlling an information processing system, comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, the setting step of setting user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and the service use step of providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing method comprising the acquisition step of acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a

second service providing device, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; **_OR,_** stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device as claimed in Group I.

7. Inventions II and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately useable. In this instant case, invention of Group II has separate utility such as in an information processing apparatus comprising service providing means for providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, reception means for receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and use means for using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received by said reception means and the information about the user that is contained in the service object, **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing method comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object; **_OR,_** stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object not used in an information processing apparatus comprising reception means for receiving a service request, and transmission means for transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received by said reception means, wherein the proxy object has holding means for holding set information; **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing method comprising the reception step of receiving a service request, and the transmission step of transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in

accordance with the service request received in the reception step, wherein the proxy object has the holding step of holding set information as claimed in Group III.

8. Inventions III and I are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately useable. In this instant case, invention of Group III has separate utility such as in an information processing apparatus comprising reception means for receiving a service request, and transmission means for transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received by said reception means, wherein the proxy object has holding means for holding set information; **OR**, stated another way, an information processing method comprising the reception step of receiving a service request, and the transmission step of transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received in the reception step, wherein the proxy object has the holding step of holding set information not used in an information processing system comprising acquisition means for acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, setting means for setting user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and service use means for providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; **OR**, stated another way, an information processing apparatus comprising acquisition means for acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, setting means for setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired by said acquisition means, and transfer means for transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device; **OR**, stated another way, a method of controlling an information processing system, comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network in a user device, the setting step of setting user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step in the user device, and causing the second service object to hold the user information, the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device, and the service use step of providing a service of the second service providing device to the first service providing device by causing the second service object transferred to the first service providing device to use the user information; **OR**, stated another way, an information processing method comprising the acquisition step of acquiring via a network a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing

device; **_OR,_** stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the acquisition step of acquiring a first service object from a first service providing device and a second service object from a second service providing device via a network, the setting step of setting and holding user information in the second service object acquired in the acquisition step, and the transfer step of transferring the second service object which holds the user information to the first service providing device as claimed in Group I.

9. Inventions III and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately useable. In this instant case, invention of Group III has separate utility such as in an information processing apparatus comprising reception means for receiving a service request, and transmission means for transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received by said reception means, wherein the proxy object has holding means for holding set information; **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing method comprising the reception step of receiving a service request, and the transmission step of transmitting a proxy object for performing a service to a request source of the request in accordance with the service request received in the reception step, wherein the proxy object has the holding step of holding set information not used in an information processing apparatus comprising service providing means for providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, reception means for receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and use means for using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received by said reception means and the information about the user that is contained in the service object, **_OR,_** stated another way, an information processing method comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object; **_OR,_** stated another way, a computer-readable memory which stores a control program executable by a computer, wherein the computer executes the control program to realize information processing comprising the service providing step of providing a predetermined service to a user device on a network via a service object, the reception step of receiving a service object of another service providing device from the user device, the serving object of said another service providing device containing information about a user, and the use step of using a service of said another service providing device by using the service object received in the reception step and the information about the user that is contained in the service object as claimed in Group II.

10. An undue burden would be placed upon examiner since the search each Group would be in classes and subclasses not required for the other Groups.

11. Because these inventions are independently distinct from each other for the reasons given above and because they have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and their recognized divergent subject matter and the search for each Group is not required for the other Group, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

12. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

13. The applicant is also advised that the response must be submitted to the Office **within ONE [1] Month** or 30 days, whichever is longest.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert B. Harrell whose telephone number is (703) 305-9692. The examiner can normally be reached Monday thru Friday from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm and on weekends from 6:00 am to 12 noon Eastern Standard Time.

15. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack B. Harvey, can be reached on (703) 308-9705. The fax phone number for all papers is (703) 872-9306.

16. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

ROBERT B. HARRELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2142